

WE CLAIM:

1. A system for performing searches across user defined events for an arbitrary geographic region or regions, the system comprising:
 - an event data structure comprising one or more user defined events, each event associated with a zip code;
 - a zip list processor, operative to receive a zip code and a distance value, which are used to calculate a zip list comprising all zip codes geographically located within the distance value from the zip code; and
 - an event list generator to receive the zip list and query the event data structure to retrieve events associated with zip codes contained in the zip list.
2. The system of claim 1 wherein the zip list processor utilizes great circle mathematics to calculate all zip codes geographically located with the distance value from the zip code.
3. The system of claim 2 comprising a zip data structure to store one or more zip codes and associated latitude and longitude values.
4. The system of claim 1 comprising a calendar generator to facilitate creation of a calendars and a calendar data structure.
5. The system of claim 4 wherein the each of the one or more user defined events are associated with a calendar in the calendar data structure.
6. The system of claim 5 wherein the calendar generator is operative to format and present the calendar and associated user defined events on a display device.
7. The system of claim 1 wherein the one or more user defined events are marked as public or private events.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein private events are excluded from the query performed by the event list generator.

9. A method for performing searches across user defined events for an arbitrary geographic region or regions, the method comprising:

creating an event data structure comprising one or more user defined events, each event associated within a zip code;

calculating a zip list comprising all zip codes geographically located within a distance equal to a received distance value from a received zip code; and

querying the event data structure to retrieve events associated with zip codes contained in the zip list.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein calculating comprises utilizing great circle mathematics to calculate all zip codes geographically located with the distance value from the zip code.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein calculating comprises retrieving zip codes from a zip data structure used to store one or more zip codes and associated latitude and longitude values.

12. The method of claim 9 comprising generating a calendar data structure and one or more calendars through the use of a calendar generator.

13. The method of claim 12 comprising associating each of the one or more user defined events with a calendar in the calendar data structure.

14. The method of claim 13 comprising formatting and presenting the calendar and associated user defined events on a display device.

15. The method of claim 9 comprising marking the one or more user defined events as public or private events.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein querying excludes private events.

[illegible]